

Study in Genesis 33

Here in this chapter we see , God putting Esau Jacob's brother at peace with him

Jeremiah 15:11 ASV Jehovah said, Verily I will strengthen thee for good; verily I will cause the enemy to make supplication unto thee in the time of evil and in the time of affliction.

Proverbs 16:7 ASV When a man's ways please Jehovah, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

This is the brother who said When Issac our dad dead I will kill Jacob, now after many years we see in this chapter the two brothers is seen forgiving , hugging and kissing each other.

Genesis 27:41 ASV And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.

Maybe the advice of Jacob mother Rebecca is seen prove to be true after a long time distance wounds where healed.

Genesis 27:42-45 ASV 42 And the words of Esau her elder son were told to Rebekah; and she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said unto him, Behold, thy brother Esau, as touching thee, doth comfort himself, purposing to kill thee. 43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; and arise, flee thou to Laban my brother to Haran; 44 and tarry with him a few days, until thy brother's fury turn away; 45 until thy brother's anger turn away from thee, and he forget that which thou hast done to him: then I will send, and fetch thee from thence: why should I be bereaved of you both in one day?

At times when we see ourselves having problems with family members or friends it is good to distance ourselves for a time . Twenty years has passed since they seen each other. If They where in there 40's now they are 60's , Some ancient traditions states they where 77 when Jacob left and now Jacob and Esau where 97 years old . The time for disputes is long gone away.

As Christians we are to seek peace with all men as it is possible.

Romans 12:18 ASV If it be possible, as much as in you lieth, be at peace with all men.

Hebrews 12:14 ASV Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man shall see the Lord:

And here we see just that, Jacob seeking peace with his brother.

Genesis 33:1-4 ASV 1 And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau was coming, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids. 2 And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindmost. 3 And he himself passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. 4 And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

Now we see Jacob introduces Esau to his family

Genesis 33:5-7 ASV 5 And he lifted up his eyes, and saw the women and the children; and said, Who are these with thee? And he said, The children whom God hath graciously given thy servant. 6 Then the handmaids came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves. 7 And Leah also and her children came near, and bowed themselves: and after came Joseph near and Rachel, and they bowed themselves.

Jacob explains why he brought Esau gifts before meeting him.

Genesis 33:8 ASV And he said, What meanest thou by all this company which I met? And he said, To find favor in the sight of my lord.

Jacob forces his gifts upon his brother

Genesis 33:9-11 ASV 9 And Esau said, I have enough, my brother; let that which thou hast be thine. 10 And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found favor in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand; forasmuch as I have seen thy face, as one seeth the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me. 11 Take, I pray thee, my gift that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it.

Does Jacob deceive his brother or not in the following? Because each left to two different locations or did the Bible leave something out when Jacob gives meets again his brother with those gifts .

Gen 35:29 So Isaac breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people, being old and full of days. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Gen 33:10-17 ASV 10 And Jacob said, Nay, I pray thee, if now I have found favor in thy sight, then receive my present at my hand; forasmuch as I have seen thy face, as one seeth the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me. 11 Take, I pray thee, my gift that is brought to thee; because God hath dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough. And he urged him, and he took it. 12 And he said, Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before thee. 13 And he said unto him, My lord knoweth that the children are tender, and that the flocks and herds with me have their young: and if they overdrive them one day, all the flocks will die. 14 Let my lord, I pray thee, pass over before his servant: and I will lead on gently, according to the pace of the cattle that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come unto my lord unto Seir. 15 And Esau said, Let me now leave with thee some of the folk that are with me. And he said, What needeth it? let me find favor in the sight of my lord. 16 So Esau returned that day on his way unto Seir. 17 And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him a house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

Succoth means tents or tabernacles

Rashi ("He stayed there eighteen months: summer, winter, and summer. "Succoth" denotes summer. "A house" denotes winter, and [again]"succoth" denotes summer. —")

Gen 33:18-20 ASV 18 And Jacob came in peace to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Paddan-aram; and encamped before the city. 19 And he bought the parcel of ground, where he had spread his tent, at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of money. 20 And he erected there an altar, and called it El-Elohe-Israel.

El-Elohe-Israel means "God is the God of Israel.":

Study in Genesis 34

While there were laws in ancient times that protected a woman who was a virgin and was engaged there was no laws that protected women who were virgins and not engaged from being raped.

For example Among the Sumerian Ur Nammu Law Code (6,8)

If a man violates the right of another and deflowers the virgin wife of a young man, they shall kill that male.

If a man proceeded by force, and deflowered the virgin female slave of another man, that man must pay five shekels of silver.

Just like we see in the Law of Moses a rapist punishment for raping a woman if she was paying the bride price if she wasn't engaged but if she was engaged then it was death.

Exodus 22:16-17 WEB 16 "If a man entices a virgin who isn't pledged to be married, and lies with her, he shall surely pay a dowry for her to be his wife. 17 If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money according to the dowry of virgins.

Deuteronomy 22:28-29 WEB 28 If a man finds a lady who is a virgin, who is not pledged to be married, grabs her and lies with her, and they are found, 29 then the man who lay with her shall give to the lady's father fifty shekels of silver. She shall be his wife, because he has humbled her. He may not put her away all his days.

Deuteronomy 22:23-26 WEB 23 If there is a young lady who is a virgin pledged to be married to a husband, and a man finds her in the city, and lies with her, 24 then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones; the lady, because she didn't cry, being in the city; and the man, because he has humbled his neighbor's wife. So you shall remove the evil from among you. 25 But if the man finds the lady who is pledged to be married in the field, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die; 26 but to the lady you shall do nothing. There is in the lady no sin worthy of death; for as when a man rises against his neighbor and kills him, even so is this matter;

Genesis 34:1-3 WEB 1 Dinah, the daughter of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. 2 Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her. He took her, lay with her, and humbled her. 3 His soul joined to Dinah, the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the young lady, and spoke kindly to the young lady.

Could verse 3 be a evidence for Soul tides , is soul tides something more than just some Christian speaks about, and the answer is yes . We see in in verse 8

Hamor talked with them, saying, "The soul of my son, Shechem, longs for your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife.

1Corinthians 6:15-17 WEB 15 Don't you know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! 16 Or don't you know that he who is joined to a prostitute is one body? For, "The two", he says, "will become one flesh." 17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

After this event of him raping Dina his soul was joined to Dinah so much so that he tried to right his wrong and to his Father to talk her Jacob Father of Marriage for him and Dinah

Genesis 34:4 WEB Shechem spoke to his father, Hamor, saying, "Get me this young lady as a wife."

And we about to see that his Father listen to the voice of his Son and did talk to Jacob but I think one of the biggest mistakes he could of done was not talking to him alone . He included Jacob's sons in the conversation. And in so doing Jacob sons would find out and take vengeance for what happened to their sister.

Gen 34:7-12 WEB 7 The sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard it. The men were grieved, and they were very angry, because he had done folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter, a thing that

ought not to be done. 8 Hamor talked with them, saying, "The soul of my son, Shechem, longs for your daughter. Please give her to him as a wife.

(Did you notice the soul tides , verse 8 the longing of his son's soul for Dinah)

9 Make marriages with us. Give your daughters to us, and take our daughters for yourselves.
(Probably a reference to Jacob's female slaves aswell and granddaughters for we do not read of Jacob having any other daughters besides Dinah)

10 You shall dwell with us, and the land will be before you. Live and trade in it, and get possessions in it."
11 Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you will tell me I will give. 12 Ask me a great amount for a dowry, and I will give whatever you ask of me, but give me the young lady as a wife."

They was willing to pay a dowry as it were a down payment to show how serious his son was about Jacob's daughter.

Jacob son's Simon and Levi will agree but secretly plans to do them wrong having this marriage only as a means to taking vengeance by first having everyone circumcized then when the men are in pain killing and plundering them .

Genesis 34:13-18 WEB 13 The sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father with deceit when they spoke, because he had defiled Dinah their sister, 14 and said to them, "We can't do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised; for that is a reproach to us. 15 Only on this condition will we consent to you. If you will be as we are, that every male of you be circumcised, 16 then will we give our daughters to you; and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people. 17 But if you will not listen to us and be circumcised, then we will take our sister, and we will be gone." 18 Their words pleased Hamor and Shechem, Hamor's son.

Shechem must of been very in love with Dinah for he did just as they said without thinking twice and cause every man among his fellow to do the same.

Gen 34:19-24 WEB 19 The young man didn't wait to do this thing, because he had delight in Jacob's daughter, and he was honored above all the house of his father. 20 Hamor and Shechem, his son, came to the gate of their city, and talked with the men of their city, saying

gate of the city was as it where the court house or city hall of every city at that time , there they spoke on legal issues , and even sentence people for punishment there.

Deuteronomy 16:18 WEB You shall make judges and officers in all your gates, which Yahweh your God gives you, according to your tribes; and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment.

, 21 "These men are peaceful with us. Therefore let them live in the land and trade in it. For behold, the land is large enough for them. Let's take their daughters to us for wives, and let's give them our daughters. 22 Only on this condition will the men consent to us to live with us, to become one people, if every male among us is circumcised, as they are circumcised. 23 Won't their livestock and their possessions and all their animals be ours? Only let's give our consent to them, and they will dwell with us." 24 All who went out of the gate of his city listened to Hamor, and to Shechem his son; and every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of his city.

Now we are getting the revenge of Simon and Levi remember how Jacob son's felt .

In verse 7 The sons of Jacob came in from the field when they heard it. The men were grieved, and they

were very angry, because he had done folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter, a thing that ought not to be done.

They felt angry and grieved so they are about to take vengeance , as Christians we are not called to take vengeance

Romans 12:19-21 WEB 19 Don't seek revenge yourselves, beloved, but give place to God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord." 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in doing so, you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

And even in the Law of Moses they are told not to take vengeance on fellow Israelites

Leviticus 19:18 WEB "'You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people; but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am Yahweh.

Let's continue or read

Gen 34:25-31 WEB 25 On the third day, when they were sore, two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, each took his sword, came upon the unsuspecting city, and killed all the males. 26 They killed Hamor and Shechem, his son, with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went away. 27 Jacob's sons came on the dead, and plundered the city, because they had defiled their sister. 28 They took their flocks, their herds, their donkeys, that which was in the city, that which was in the field, 29 and all their wealth. They took captive all their little ones and their wives, and took as plunder everything that was in the house. 30 Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have troubled me, to make me odious to the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites. I am few in number. They will gather themselves together against me and strike me, and I will be destroyed, I and my house." 31 They said, "Should he deal with our sister as with a prostitute?"

This is event that remembered by Jacob even in his last moments he reminds Levi and Simon of what they have done

Genesis 49

Gen 49:5-7 NET 5 Simeon and Levi are brothers, weapons of violence are their knives! 6 O my soul, do not come into their council, do not be united to their assembly, my heart, for in their anger they have killed men, and for pleasure they have hamstrung oxen. 7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce, and their fury, for it was cruel. I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel!

Study in Genesis 35

Genesis 35:1 Then God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel (means the house of God) and dwell there; and make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from the face of Esau your brother."

(Interesting is that after Abraham received the Lord's promises for the first time he built a altar near to there and now his grandson Jacob is going to build a altar there)

Let's take a quick look at that event of when God appearing to Jacob

Genesis 28:10-19 WEB 10 Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. 11 He came to a certain place, and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones of the place, and put it under his head, and lay down in that place to sleep. 12 He dreamed and saw a stairway set

upon the earth, and its top reached to heaven. Behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 Behold, Yahweh stood above it, and said, "I am Yahweh, the God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac. I will give the land you lie on to you and to your offspring. 14 Your offspring will be as the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your offspring, all the families of the earth will be blessed. 15 Behold, I am with you, and will keep you, wherever you go, and will bring you again into this land. For I will not leave you until I have done that which I have spoken of to you." 16 Jacob awakened out of his sleep, and he said, "Surely Yahweh is in this place, and I didn't know it." 17 He was afraid, and said, "How awesome this place is! This is none other than God's house, and this is the gate of heaven." 18 Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil on its top. 19 He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Genesis 35:2-4 WEB 2 Then Jacob said to his household, and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you, purify yourselves, and change your garments. 3 Let's arise, and go up to Bethel. I will make there an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me on the way which I went." 4 They gave to Jacob all the foreign gods which were in their hands, and the rings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem.

Jacob must of known of Rachel having those idols of her father even although he found out about it a little too late about it.

Gen 31:32 WEB Anyone you find your gods with shall not live. Before our relatives, discern what is yours with me, and take it." For Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen them.

Here most likely Rachel got rid of those Idols and gotten right with God

Gen 35:5 WEB They traveled, and a terror of God was on the cities that were around them, and they didn't pursue the sons of Jacob.

What Jacob feared of the nations rising against him and his family didn't happen but the reversed happen.

Gen 34:30 WEB Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have troubled me, to make me odious to the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites. I am few in number. They will gather themselves together against me and strike me, and I will be destroyed, I and my house."

What we fear the most usually never happens and if it does happen, it is never as bad as we imagine it to be.

Genesis 35:6-7 WEB 6 So Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him. 7 He built an altar there, and called the place El Beth El; because there God was revealed to him, when he fled from the face of his brother.

God of the House of God, or God of Bethel

It was most likely there where he kept his vow and gave God his tithing which he told God he would do .

Genesis 28:20-22 WEB 20 Jacob vowed a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and clothing to put on, 21 so that I come again to my father's house in peace, and Yahweh will be my God, 22 then this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, will be God's house. Of all that you will give me I will surely give a tenth to you."

Gen 35:8 WEB Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died, and she was buried below Bethel under the oak; and its name was called Allon Bacuth.

Allon Bacuth means "oak of weeping" I could imagine she was greatly loved

This Deborah is first mentioned here

Gen 24:59 WEB They sent away Rebekah, their sister, with her nurse, Abraham's servant, and his men.

It is interesting that we do not read of when was Rebekah's death except for when Jacob is going to die he makes mention of it .

Gen 49:31 WEB There they buried Abraham and Sarah, his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah, his wife, and there I buried Leah:

but we read of when her nurse's dead , So it might be that somewhere down the line Rebekah sent her nurse to watch over her son or might of Joined her son and left her nurse with Jacob. She was greatly loved.

Gen 35:9-10 WEB 9 God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan Aram, and blessed him. 10 God said to him, "Your name is Jacob. Your name shall not be Jacob any more, but your name will be Israel." He named him Israel.

God changed his named before to Israel when Jacob had his wrestling match with him

Gen 32:28 WEB He said, "Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have fought with God and with men, and have prevailed."

But it still didn't stuck to him who he was, God renamed him , He was not the Jacob of Old (a thief) but Israel (One who strived with God , one who rules with God)

How many times we forget our identity in Christ and have to be reminded of who we are .

Gen 35:11-12 Tanakh-1917 11 And God said unto him: 'I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; 12 and the land which I gave unto Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.'

As God promised the land to his Grandfather

Gen 15:18 Tanakh-1917 In that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: 'Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates;

and to his Father

Gen 26:3 Tanakh-1917 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father;

so he does to him. God never forgets his promises. But always remembers them.

Gen 35:13-15 Tanakh-1917 13 And God went up from him in the place where He spoke with him. 14 And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He spoke with him, a pillar of stone, and he poured out a drink-offering thereon, and poured oil thereon. 15 And Jacob called the name of the place where God

spoke with him, Beth-el.

Beth-el means again house of God

Gen 35:16-20 WEB 16 They traveled from Bethel. There was still some distance to come to Ephrath, and Rachel travailed. She had hard labor. 17 When she was in hard labor, the midwife said to her, "Don't be afraid, for now you will have another son." 18 As her soul was departing (for she died), she named him Benoni, but his father named him Benjamin. 19 Rachel died, and was buried on the way to Ephrath (also called Bethlehem). 20 Jacob set up a pillar on her grave. The same is the Pillar of Rachel's grave to this day.

Benoni" means "son of my trouble".

Benjamin" means "son of my right hand".

What she desired most was the very same thing that would of destroyed her . How many times we desire things that would do us more harm than good at the end no matter how innocent it may look , there is a reason why God withholds from us.

Gen 30:1-2 WEB 1 When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister. She said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I will die." 2 Jacob's anger burned against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in God's place, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"

Gen 30:24 WEB She named him Joseph, saying, "May Yahweh add another son to me."

Also we can't forget the curse which Jacob unknowingly gave to Rachel

Gen 31:32 WEB Anyone you find your gods with shall not live. Before our relatives, discern what is yours with me, and take it." For Jacob didn't know that Rachel had stolen them.

Gen 35:21-22 WEB 21 Israel traveled, and spread his tent beyond the tower of Eder. 22 While Israel lived in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah, his father's concubine, and Israel heard of it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve.

The Greek version of the Old Testament name the Septuagint adds that Israel heard, it " the thing appeared grievous before him."

Now for a brief time we see Jacob being called Israel in the passage but we also see a event which Jacob was to remember before his death and that was Reuben having sexual intercourse with his wife. This event would cause Reuben to loose his firstborn right .

Gen 49:3-4 WEB 3 "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, excelling in dignity, and excelling in power. 4 Boiling over like water, you shall not excel, because you went up to your father's bed, then defiled it. He went up to my couch.

Now the following verses from 23-26 the list of the sons of Jacob and who were their mother

Gen 35:23-26 ISV 23 Leah's sons were Reuben (Jacob's first-born), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. 24 Rachel's sons were Joseph and Benjamin. 25 Rachel's servant Bilhah's sons were Dan and Naphtali. 26 Leah's servant Zilpah's sons were Gad and Asher. These were Jacob's sons who were born to him while he lived in Paddan-aram.

Jacob finally gets to his Father before his dad's death and is able to team up with his brother Esau to bury him .

Gen 35:27-29 ISV 27 So Jacob reached his father Isaac at Mamre, in Kiriath-arba (also known as Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had lived. 28 Isaac had lived a total of 180 years 29 when he died and joined his ancestors at a ripe old age. Then his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.